

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application. Claims 1-23 stand rejected.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges Examiner's indication that claims 24-31 comprise allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten as suggested. The Examiner's reconsideration of the claim rejections is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form to include the subject matter of base claim 19. Therefore, claim 24 and dependent claims 25-31 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,355,498 to Provino. Although Applicant disagrees with the rejection, Applicant has amended the claims to make clear some major differences between Provino and the claimed inventions. Indeed, at the very minimum, claims 1 and 8 are patentably distinct and patentable over Provino because Provino does not disclose or suggest a *programmable logic device that is initialized in advance of the boot process to perform input/output (I/O) or DMA (direct memory access) transfers for the boot process*, as essentially claimed in claims 1 and 8. Provino merely discloses a system boot PROM that stores code for the boot process. But the boot PROM clearly does not perform *input/output (I/O) or DMA (direct memory access) transfers* for the boot process. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejections §102 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 4-7 and 11-23 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Provino in view of AAPA. Claims 14 and 19 (as well as 1 and 8) essentially recite *a programmable logic device that is initialized in advance of the boot process to perform input/output (I/O) or DMA (direct memory access) transfers for the boot process*, which is neither disclosed nor suggested by Provino or AAPA, singularly or in combination. Therefore, claims 1, 8, 14 and 19, and all claims that depend from claims 1, 8, 14 and 19 are patentable over Provino and AAPA. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejections of claims 4-7 and 11-23 under §103 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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